

UNITED IN DEATH.

NEW YORK, Mar. 30.—Just on the eve of her expected departure Saturday to visit her sister in England, Miss Olive Trearin, housekeeper for Miss Eliza Moulton, a wealthy woman of New Rochelle, received a cablegram announcing that her sister had died. Despondent over the news, Miss Trearin last night swallowed the contents of a bottle of carbolic acid and died before a physician could reach her.

Given up to Die.

B. Spiegel, 1204 N. Virginia street, Evansville, Ind., writes: "For over five years I was troubled with kidney and bladder affections which caused me much pain and worry. I lost flesh and was all run down, and a year ago had to abandon work entirely. I had three of the best physicians who did me no good and I was practically given up to die. Foley's Kidney Cure was recommended and the first bottle gave me great relief, and after taking the second bottle I was entirely cured." Why not let it help you?—T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.



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WASHINGTON NOTES

Physical Valuation Applied to the Telephone Companies.

DEATH OF VITAL PRINCIPALS

"Army and Navy" Congress Suggested as an Appellation for the Present Congress on Account of Attention Paid Defense Measures.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 30.—Pres. Roosevelt's belief that by means of the physical valuation of the property of great corporations, the relations between the public and these corporations will be improved and that the interests of the stockholders will be protected, has received support from an unexpected quarter. Theodore N. Vail, president of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, better known as the Bell system, in his first annual report as president of the company, made public last week, has applied the Rooseveltian principle of physical valuation to his company, following the example of the United States Steel Corporation and the Pennsylvania Railroad, in supporting policies of the present national administration. The American Telephone and Telegraph Company has obligations to the amount of \$554,939,000, shown by President Vail's report to include the outstanding obligations of itself and its subsidiary operating companies in the United States in addition to the capital stock, at par, in the hands of the public. The report deducts from the total of obligations as given above cash on hand, quick receivables, working assets and sundry investments amounting to \$101,075,000. The balance, \$453,865,000, represents capital invested in operating plants. These, however, are carried on the books of the company at a valuation of \$492,496,000. The approximate accuracy of this book valuation has now been proved by the appraisal of engineers based upon an estimated cost of copper at 15 cents a pound, although many millions of pounds used by the company were purchased at a considerably higher figure. The Rooseveltian appraisal, as the report of the engineers may be called, gave a total valuation of \$488,292,000. The deduction of \$453,865,000, representing the outstanding obligations against its operating plants leaves a surplus of appraised value over the total of outstanding obligations no less than \$34,431,000. Political gossip in Washington and current opinion in the financial district of New York hold that this practical demonstration of the value of the application of the test of physical valuation will have the effect of lessening opposition to the policy of the President in that direction.

Now that the national conventions are only a few weeks off, the two big parties have begun to take inventory, with the result that the leaders are "put to it" to find enough issues and differences of policy upon which to make a fight and get out the voters for the final battle next November. Seldom before have the great political parties prepared for battle with such few really vital principals at stake. A close comparison of the heretofore announced policies of the Republicans and the Democrats will show that there are only a few, and these few slight, divergences of opinion on the great questions of the day. With a realization of this state of affairs, the political stock-taking has been earnestly and seriously pursued, and the possibility of a hitherto almost unthought-of has presented itself. This is no less than the Supreme Court of the United States—that tribunal which, by its interpretation of the statutes and treaties which Congress enacts, constitutes itself the "power behind the throne"—the real law-making body. At the highest tribunal in the land are Republicans and the chief justice and two associate justices are of Democratic faith. No less than four of the jurists will be eligible for retirement this year, and the chances are that they will retire during the next administration. Therefore, the next President doubtless will have it in his Bench and install four men who are sympathetic with his policies and are of his political faith. The four who may possibly retire in the next four years are Chief Justice Fuller, Democrat, and Associate Justices Harlan, Republican; Brewer, Republican; and Peckham, Democrat. This consideration, it will be seen, is a more or less important one, and it is under-



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stood that it will be used to influence votes in the coming campaign.

While the custom has arisen of denominating each Congress by some characteristic name, the choice of such an appellation for the present session seems still to be in doubt. Talked of at first as the "do nothing" Congress, it now looks as if the present gathering of law makers would be known as the "army and navy congress" on account of the extent to which its attention has been attracted to the investigation of all sorts of charges in connection with these two branches of the national defense. The navy so far has come in for more than its share of notice, beginning with the cruise to the Pacific and continuing through attacks concerning the method of armament and culminating at present in the submarine scandal investigation. So far the army, except for the Brownsville affair, has kept its skirts fairly clean but it now seems as if it were to even scores with the navy. Dr. L. L. Seaman, a volunteer surgeon in the Spanish war who was subsequently with one of the Japanese divisions in the Russian war and who has made a tour of the world investigating contagious diseases, in an article which he contributes to the current number of Appleton's Magazine criticizes the medical system of the Army, handling the subject without gloves. "The medical department of our army," says the Appleton article, "whose archaic system almost parallels that of Peking while falling far below that of Patagonia, although unequal to cope with the exigencies of the Spanish War, is to relatively 60 per cent worse off in number than at the close of the Civil War in 1864 or at the termination of the Spanish American War". Dr. Seaman further asserts that the Japanese in their war with Russia treated their prisoners with more humanity than this country accords to its soldiers from a medical standpoint in times of peace. It is believed here that in view of Dr. Seaman's statements and surprising figures with which he backs them up, the charges which he makes cannot pass without investigation on the part of Congress. If such proves to be the case there will be no branch of the service either at land or sea that the present session has not taken up, and in view of this fact it may well go down in history as the army and navy congress.

Poor Uncle Sam has been the recipient of many queer requests, based on exaggerated ideas of his generosity and usefulness as the patron saint of these United States. They have ranged all the way from appeals for his help in finding a suitable helpmeet for a one legged and cross-eyed pensioner, to requests for early remittance of the amount accredited to each inhabitant in the per capita circulation reports of the Treasury Department, or of the prize supposed to be held out for the proud and pious pops of twins or triplets. But the request transmitted to the benign old gentleman who presides over the destinies of the Agricultural Department this week, certainly should be given first place in the list. The communication reads: "Dear Mr. Congressman, sum time ago, I writ yu, asking if there were anythink the gubnment cud do to make a fiten wife behave herself. I ain't herd from yu and things is no better. "Will yu please let me no if yu can git me one of them pizen snakes from India at the 'Cultural Department? I hev allers voted for yu and this is mitey little to ask." Possibly the writer, before his State went dry, became familiar with the efficacy of reptiles in subduing belligerent spirits, and now that it is dry turns to the government to help him out of his dilemma and deliver him from a "fiten wife." Undertakers' fees are perhaps cheaper in Georgia than marriage licenses.

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A severe cold that may develop into pneumonia over night, can be cured quickly by taking Foley's Honey and Tar. It will cure the most obstinate racking cough and strengthen your lungs. The genuine is in a yellow package. T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.

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